

139. A method for hormone replacement therapy comprising orally administering to a woman;  
a daily dose of 1 to 3 mg of an estrogen, and  
a daily dose of 0.25 to 10.0 mg of drospirenone, wherein the drospirenone is in a form  
having a surface area of more than 10 000 cm<sup>3</sup>/g.

140. A method for hormone replacement therapy comprising orally administering to a woman;  
a daily dose of 1 to 3 mg of an estrogen, and  
a daily dose of 0.25 to 10.0 mg of drospirenone, wherein the drospirenone is in a form  
having a rapid dissolution such that at least 70% of said drospirenone is dissolved from a tablet  
containing 3 mg of drospirenone in 900 ml of water at 37°C within 30 minutes, as determined by  
USP XXIII Paddle Method using a USP dissolution test apparatus 2 and 50 rpm as the stirring  
rate.

*DK  
cont*

141. A method of treating a disease, disorder or symptom associated with deficient  
endogenous levels of estrogen in women comprising orally administering to a woman having a  
deficient endogenous level of estrogen;  
an estrogen in a sufficient amount to alleviate said disease, disorder or symptom,  
and micronized drospirenone in a sufficient amount to protect the endometrium from  
adverse effects of estrogen.

142. A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the method is for treatment  
of deficient levels of estrogen caused by natural menopause, peri-menopause, post-menopause,  
hypogonadism, castration or primary ovarian failure.

143. A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the estrogen is selected from  
the group consisting of estradiol, estradiol sulfamates, estradiol valerate, estradiol benzoate,  
ethynodiol diacetate, estrone, estrone sulfate, estriol, estriol succinate, conjugated estrogens and

mixtures thereof.

**144.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the estrogen is in micronized form.

**145.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the amount of drospirenone corresponds to a daily dose of 1 to 3.5 mg.

**146.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the estrogen and drospirenone are administered continuously.

*AS Cont.*  
**147.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the estrogen is administered continuously and drospirenone is administered sequentially.

**148.** A method according to claim 147, wherein the estrogen dosage is lower for the first 1 to 7 days immediately after finalizing said sequential administration of drospirenone.

**149.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein estrogen is administered continuously and drospirenone is administered in an interrupted manner.

**150.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein estrogen is administered continuously for 21 to 30 days and drospirenone is administered in a 3-day-on-3-day-off cycle.

**151.** A method according to claim 138, 139, 140 or 141, wherein the estrogen is ethinyl estradiol.

**152.** A method according to claim 140, wherein at least 80% of said drospirenone is dissolved

*PD*  
*concl* within 20 minutes by the stated test.

---